SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL REPORT.

Mount Auburn Cemetery.

JANUARY 1, 1901.

CREMATORY, FORMERLY OLD CHAPEL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES

OF THE

Cemetery of Mount Auburn,

FOR 1900,

TOGETHER WITH

THE REPORTS

OF THE

TREASURER AND SUPERINTENDENT.

SIXTY-NINTH YEAR.

BOSTON:
THOMAS GROOM & CO., STATIONERS,
No. 82 STATE STREET.
1901.

OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION FOR 1900.

Trustees.

JOSEPH SAWYER	*Term expires in*		1901
FRANCIS C. FOSTER	"	"	1901
CHARLES F. CHOATE	"	"	1902
JOSHUA M. SEARS	"	"	1902
DAVID W. CHEEVER	"	"	1903
DAVID R. WHITNEY	"	"	1903
ISRAEL M. SPELMAN	"	"	1904
JEROME JONES	"	"	1904
FRANK W. REYNOLDS	"	"	1905
JOSEPH B. RUSSELL	"	"	1905
CHARLES H. WATSON	"	"	1906
PRENTISS CUMMINGS	"	"	1906

President.

ISRAEL M. SPELMAN.

Treasurer.	Assistant Treasurer.	Secretary.
JOHN L. DILL.	H. B. MACKINTOSH.	L. G. FARMER.

Superintendent.

J. C. SCORGIE.

Office of the Corporation.

5 TREMONT STREET,

BOSTON.

Office of the Superintendent.

AT THE CEMETERY,

P. O. ADDRESS, CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL REPORT.

The Trustees herewith submit to the Proprietors their Sixty-Ninth Annual Report, together with the reports of the Treasurer and Superintendent.

The business of the year has been, on the whole, satisfactory. The sales of lots show a considerable diminution, but the deficiency is amply made up by receipts from other sources.

The various funds present the following exhibit: —

The Repair Fund now amounts to $1,110,570.78, and its increase for the year is $55,728.28. This fund, it is always to be remembered, is not to be regarded as an asset, as its full amount is estimated to be balanced by the obligations assumed for the perpetual care of monuments and lots. The income from this fund must be used for these purposes only, and is not deemed large in consideration of the obligations assumed.

The Permanent Fund, which is to provide for the expenses of the cemetery after all the lots are sold, and which is accumulating under the provisions of the By-Laws, is now $415,935.60. The gain of the year is $11,964.75.

The General Fund, from which are to be made all large improvements, such as renewals of fences, buildings, greenhouses and the like, now amounts to $128,220.27.

The most signal event of the past year is the completion of our crematory, which, as anticipated in our last report, was ready for use in April last. It was completed under the direction and agreeably to the plans of our architect, Mr. Willard T. Sears, who skilfully availed himself of all the information on this subject which we could gather, both at home and abroad. In carrying out his views, the old chapel was entirely reconstructed and adapted to crematory uses. Only the outer granite structure, which it was deemed desirable to retain on

account of its associations, was preserved. Otherwise, the whole building was entirely reconstructed. The chapel alterations were made by the R. Guastavino Company, and the retorts and other incinerating apparatus designed and put in by the Engle Sanitary and Cremation Company, of Des Moines, Iowa. Their work was very thoroughly done, and we have every reason to believe that our crematory is now, if not better, fully equal to the best crematories thus far constructed.

Valuable assistance and advice were rendered freely to us by many who felt interest in our work; especially, by Prof. R. H. Richards, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who added to his advice his own personal aid in making our crematory a success.

Early in April we were prepared to incinerate the bodies of the dead, and on the seventh day of that month we received permission from the Board of Health to do so. The Board had caused the crematory to be carefully examined, and gave their approval of our location and plans, together with the details of construction and also of our By-Laws and Regulations.

The first cremation took place on the eighteenth of April, and since that time to the end of the year fifty cremations have been made, a larger number than we had anticipated, as no public notice of our readiness to incinerate had been given.

That cremation is growing in favor seems clearly evident. It is undoubtedly not only the most speedy method of resolving the body into its elements, one hour doing the work of years, but also the safest in a sanitary point of view.

Proprietors who feel interested may find further information in regard to cremation and its details in the Superintendent's report and in the appendix.

The difficulty of making safe and judicious investment of the funds of the Repair Fund has been so largely increased by recent changes in the money market, that the Trustees now propose to the Proprietors that the third clause of Article VIII.

of the By-Laws, which regulates this matter, be rescinded, and the following provisions be substituted for that clause : —

All such sums shall collectively constitute a separate fund, called the " Repair Fund," and shall be invested in the public debt of the United States, or in that of the State of Massachusetts, or in the debt of any of the counties, cities, or towns of this State, or in mortgages of real estate in any city or town in Massachusetts, or in the bonds or notes of such other corporations, which have earned and paid regular dividends for the two years next preceding such investment, as shall be deemed a proper and suitable investment by the Committee on Finance ; or in such investments as are authorized by the State of Massachusetts for savings banks, provided :

That no investment in excess of $40,000 (par value) shall be made in any one security, and

That the Committee on Finance shall report monthly to the President, to be laid before the Trustees at the next meeting, a list of all investments which shall have been made from this fund since the previous meeting.

The advantages of this change are at once obvious. Not only is the scope of investment widened, but the Finance Committee are relieved of the great responsibility heretofore entirely resting upon them. The habit of making monthly reports to the President, to be laid before the Board at the next meeting, practically makes the whole Board cognizant of all its doings, thus sharing their responsibility, and also establishing the custom of frequent reports, now generally adopted by all institutions of a character similar to our own.

The Trustees, therefore, lay this amendment before the Proprietors for their action. Proper notice and advertisement of this proposed change have been made agreeably to Article X. of the By-Laws, which regulates the method of such changes.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

For the Trustees,

ISRAEL M. SPELMAN,
President.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

RECEIPTS.

Cash balance from preceding year			$18,148.47
He has received from sundry parties, —			
For sales of lots	$14,314.00		
" labor and materials on lots, etc.	62,997.74		
" deposits in receiving tomb	980.00		
		$78,291.74	
For deeds and transfers	$152.00		
Interest on loans	5,231.51		
From Massachusetts Hospital Life Insurance Company for income on Permanent Fund	8,000.00		
From Massachusetts Horticultural Society for one quarter of expenditure for grading new lands for sale	51.56		
Notes receivable	50,000.00	$63,435.07	
			141,726.81
			$159,875.28

FOR THE SIXTY-NINTH YEAR, 1900.

EXPENDITURES.

He has paid sundry parties, —		
For labor (pay roll)	$38,035.35	
" materials	13,809.78	
" repairs of buildings and fences	1,259.45	
" receiving tomb drawbacks	45.00	
		$53,149.58
For expenses, —		
For salaries	$8,928.51	
" office expenses	3,036.58	
" taxes on real estate	1,262.38	
" insurance	35.71	
		13,263.18
For amount paid Massachusetts Horticultural Society for its proportion of sales	$3,462.25	
" amount paid Massachusetts Hospital Life Insurance Company for permanent fund	3,884.67	
" crematory, and repairs old chapel	14,846.87	
" new chapel	152.00	
" notes receivable	50,000.00	
		72,345.79
Balance in hands of Treasurer		21,116.73
		$159,875.28

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES OF THE REPAIR FUND.

Balance in the hands of Treasurer, as per last report		$34,671.50
He has received, —		
From notes receivable	$76,950.00	
" endowments	31,279.50	
" Shawmut National Bank Stock in liquidation, dividend	260.00	
" Income of investments	51,523.54	
" Atlantic National Bank Stock (20 shares)	2,309.35	
" City of Boston Bonds	10,818.75	
		173,141.14
		$207,812.64
He has paid for said account, —		
For interest	$246.75	
" care and improvement of lots	27,615.11	
" notes receivable secured by mortgage	141,000.00	
		$168,861.86
Balance in hands of Treasurer		38,950.78
		$207,812.64

REPAIR FUND.

PROPERTY.

Endowments for perpetual repair of lots, as per last report	$1,054,841.50	
Additions during the year	55,729.28	
		$1,110,570.78
Invested as follows, —		
Notes receivable secured by mortgage	$1,068,650.00	
30 shares Atlas National Bank, cost	2,970.00	
		$1,071,620.00
20 shares Shawmut National Bank, on which 125% has already been paid in liquidation.		
Cash in hands of Treasurer		38,950.78
		$1,110,570.78

GENERAL FUND.

CASH ASSETS.

Cash in hands of Treasurer		$21,116.73
Notes receivable		100,000.00
Bills for labor and materials uncollected	$8,730.86	
Less due sundry parties for labor and material	1,627.32	
		7,103.54
		$128,220.27

PERMANENT FUND.

Deposited with Massachusetts Hospital Life Insurance Company, as per last report		$403,970.85
Deposited in December, 1900	$3,884.67	
Interest	8,080.08	
		11,964.75
		$415,935.60

THE OTHER PROPERTY OF THE CORPORATION

Consists of nearly 136 acres of cemetery grounds, with avenues and paths, water works for the supply of fountains and watering purposes, and underground pipes and drains, new chapel, office buildings and statuary, old chapel remodeled for crematory, observatory, receiving tomb, gateway and other structures, reception house, and 5,620 feet of land on Mount Auburn Street, Superintendent's house, greenhouses, and 59,936 feet between Brattle and Mount Auburn Streets, the Coolidge Lot on Grove Street, containing about six acres, the Bird Lot on Sawin and Cottage Streets, containing about 44,000 square feet, and the Stone meadow on the east side of Coolidge Avenue, containing about five acres, on which are located the stables and other buildings.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN L. DILL, *Treasurer.*

BOSTON, December 31, 1900.

This certifies that the books and accounts of the Treasurer of the Proprietors of the Cemetery of Mount Auburn for the year nineteen hundred have been examined and found correctly kept and properly balanced, with satisfactory vouchers for all payments.

The certificates of stock and other evidences of property were found in accordance with the statements of his accounts.

In the general account there appears to be a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of $21,116.73, and in the fund for repairs, $38,950.78.

CHARLES H. WATSON,
PRENTISS CUMMINGS,
Committee on Finance.

JANUARY 2, 1901.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Trustees of the Cemetery of Mount Auburn:—

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honor to present herewith the Annual Report of the Superintendent for the year ending December 31, 1900.

IMPROVEMENTS.

Number of new lots graded and bounded with granite posts	34
" old lots improved by being graded and sodded	38
" old lots bounded with granite posts	5
" lots enclosed with granite	1
" lots furnished with granite or iron numbers	56
" headstones erected	319
" monuments erected	67
" catch basins built	15
" tons crushed stone spread on avenues	300
" lineal feet of concrete paths built	200
" tombs removed	0
" iron fences removed	18
" granite curbings removed	5

INTERMENT RECORD.

Total number of interments, as per last report		32,920
Number of original interments for the year ending Dec. 31, 1900	469	
" removals from other cemeteries	23	
Total number of interments for the year		492
" " " in cemetery		33,412
Of the above there were deposited in the receiving tomb	33	
" " " interments in public lots	27	

THE REMOVALS WITHIN AND FROM THE CEMETERY WERE AS FOLLOWS:—

To public lots	9	
To private lots	24	
Total removals within the cemetery		33
" " from the cemetery		18
Total number of removals		51

CREMATION RECORD.

Number of incinerations from April 18 to December 31, 1900	50

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES C. SCORGIE,
Supt. of the Cemetery of Mt. Auburn.

MOUNT AUBURN, December 31, 1900.

PERPETUAL REPAIR OF LOTS.

It is provided by Article VIII. of the By-Laws as follows: —

DONATION IN TRUST. — "The Trustees may receive in trust from a Proprietor any sum of money, the *income* of which shall be appropriated to the repair of his lot, according to the terms of trust expressed in the form provided."

PERPETUAL REPAIR, WITH GUARANTY. — "The Trustees may also guarantee the *perpetual* repair of lots, upon the payment of such a sum as the Committee on Lots shall deem sufficient for that purpose, a form for which is also provided."

"All such sums shall collectively constitute a separate fund, called the 'Repair Fund,' and shall be invested in the public debt of the United States, or in that of the State of Massachusetts, or in the debt of any of the counties, cities, or towns of this State, or in mortgages of real estate in any city or town in Massachusetts, or in first mortgage bonds, or debenture bonds of railroads not mortgaged, of any railroad company incorporated under the authority of this Commonwealth, which has earned and paid regular dividends for the two years next preceding such investment."

"Each lot in relation to which such a contract shall have been made shall be credited, in a book kept for the purpose, with the principal sum paid on account of said lot; and at the close of each year a ratable proportion of the net income of the whole Repair Fund shall be carried to its credit, in conformity with the terms of said contracts."

RECONVEYANCE IN TRUST. — "A Proprietor who shall have contracted with the corporation for the care and preservation of his lot forever, desiring to place the same in perpetual

trust, for the purpose of restricting the right of burial, or for any other legitimate object, may, with the consent of the Committee on Lots, reconvey such lot to the corporation, to hold the same forever, for the uses and trusts expressed in his deed of reconveyance; reserving to himself, and to such as may be beneficiaries thereunder, the right of admission, and such supervision as may not be inconsistent with the rights which have vested in the corporation.

Annexed to the GUARANTEE CONTRACT is a report by the Superintendent, with drawings, describing in detail the condition of the lot and structures thereon. The amount deposited is an *insurance* FOREVER, that the lot and its belongings shall always be maintained in the condition shown in the report which is made the basis of the contract.

To cover all the contingencies of the near and remote future, a sum is fixed, the income of which will be sufficient to provide for the care of the grass, including resodding, and the repair and renewal of such tomb, curb, monument, or headstone as may be shown in the Superintendent's report.

If any monuments or headstones are added subsequent to the contract, they can be covered in the same manner.

After a contract for perpetual repair, with *guaranty*, has been made, the lot may be reconveyed to the corporation *in trust*, naming in the deed the persons thereafter to be interred. The *title* to the lot being thus vested in the corporation, a *perfect security* is given that the wishes of the proprietor will be carried out.

Under the contract for DONATION IN TRUST, the *income* of any sum deposited is applied to the care and preservation of the lot.

The necessary forms for provision by will for the above are given herewith.

REGULATIONS GOVERNING CREMATIONS MADE AT THE CEMETERY OF MT. AUBURN.

Before receiving a body for cremation, the Superintendent of the cemetery will take an order, signed by the nearest relative of the deceased, or by whoever has the legal possession of the body.

If the death took place within the State of Massachusetts, Section 4, Chapter 265, Acts of 1885, must be complied with, to wit: —

> No body of a deceased person shall be cremated within forty-eight hours after decease, unless death was occasioned by contagious or infectious disease; and no body shall be received or cremated by said corporation until its officers have received the certificate or burial permit required by law before burial, together with a certificate from the medical examiner of the district within which the death occurred, that he has viewed the body and made personal inquiry into the cause and manner of death, and is of the opinion that no further examination nor judicial inquiry concerning the same is necessary.

Such other regulations as may hereafter be made by the Legislature of the State of Massachusetts, the State Board of Health, or the local Board of Health are to be complied with.

Bodies received from States in which district medical examiners are established by law, are to be accompanied by a certificate from that officer, similar to that required in the State of Massachusetts. Bodies from other States to be accompanied by the usual permit and by a certificate signed by two physicians, graduates of a legally established medical school, setting forth the cause of death, with their opinion that the body may be cremated without further examination or judicial inquiry.

Incineration to begin at least two hours before sunset.

(*Approved by the Massachusetts State Board of Health, April 7, 1900.*)

The average time needed for an incineration is one hour. The body is placed in the retort, enclosed in the casket as received at the cemetery, the name-plate, etc., being first

removed. Two hours after the incineration the ashes can be delivered to the family in a copper cylinder, terra cotta urn or wooden casket, as they may select. If marble, bronze or Wedgewood urns (with the name, age, etc., inscribed) are desired, they can be provided at some additional cost.

The charge for the cremation of the body of an adult will be $30, and that of a child under ten years of age $25. If the ashes are interred in a lot in the Cemetery of Mt. Auburn, no charge will be made for the interment, unless a brick or other special grave is ordered.

Incinerations will not be made on Sunday, unless the cause of death is certified as contagious or infectious.

All the necessary blanks and any further information desired may be had on application to

J. C. SCORGIE,
Supt. Mt. Auburn Cemetery,
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

CEMETERY OF MOUNT AUBURN.

FORM FOR CLAUSE IN WILL TO BEQUEATH MONEY FOR "PERPETUAL REPAIR, WITH GUARANTY," OF LOT.

I hereby direct my executors to pay to the Proprietors of the Cemetery of Mount Auburn such sum of money as may be found necessary to obtain from said corporation a contract for the Perpetual Repair, with Guaranty, of my Lot, No. . on the way called in said Cemetery.

FORM FOR CLAUSE IN WILL DIRECTING "RECONVEYANCE OF LOT TO CORPORATION IN TRUST."

[*Reconveyance is only accepted after a Contract for Perpetual Repair, with Guaranty, has been made.*]

I hereby authorize and empower my executors to reconvey my Lot, No. , in trust, to the Proprietors of the Cemetery of Mount Auburn, in consideration of the Contract of Perpetual Repair, with Guaranty, for the purpose of securing it as a burial place for myself and the following persons:

and no other interments to be allowed.

PRICES FOR THE CARE OF LOTS.

ADOPTED BY THE TRUSTEES.

FOR 1901.

SIZE OF LOT.	CARE.	TOP-DRESSING DURING NOVEMBER ONLY.	
100 square feet.	$1.50	$1.00	Larger lots at special rates.
200 " "	2.00	1.50	Lots containing fractional
300 " "	3.00	2.00	parts of 100 feet will be
400 " "	4.00	2.50	charged the rate of the
500 " "	5.00	3.00	next larger size when that
600 " "	6.00	3.50	fraction exceeds 50 feet.
700 " "	7.00	4.00	
800 " "	8.00	4.50	

Proprietors are requested to mail their orders to the Superintendent, Cambridge.

For funeral services, a shelter tent to cover the lot will be provided at a moderate charge, when requested.

Estimates for grading and sodding, and repairs on lots, including cleaning Monuments and Headstones, will be furnished to proprietors on application, personally, or by letter, at Superintendent's office, Cambridge.

Iron fences and granite copings removed without expense to proprietors, who will be credited with any excess over cost of removal.

Single-chamber tombs, with entrance above ground, will be removed, the lot regraded and the necessary reinterments made, without charge, except for boxes, brick graves, resodding, or corner posts, when required.

Orders for foundations for Monuments and Headstones should specify, either by diagram or accurate description, the exact location in the lot which is desired, and should be given ***at least two weeks before wanted.***

TO PROPRIETORS.

INFORMATION.

The following statement is presented in answer to the question frequently asked in regard to the title to a lot when the proprietor dies.

Title to lot held as real estate.

By the original act of incorporation, lots are held as real estate. The proprietor can convey, or by will devise, his lot; but if he dies intestate it descends to his heirs-at-law, who are (Pub. St., Chap. 125, Sect. 1): —

If proprietor dies intestate.

Heirs-at-law.

1. Children, and issue of any deceased child.
2. If no issue, then his or her father and mother.
3. If no issue nor mother, then his or her father.
4. If no issue nor father, then his or her mother.
5. If no issue, and no father nor mother, then his or her brothers and sisters, and children of any deceased brother or sister.
6. If no issue, and no father, mother, brother, nor sister, then next of kin.

Rights of widow in lot.

A widow has, in common with the children of her deceased husband, the possession, care and control of his lot during her life; and if he leaves no children, she has the sole possession, care and control of the lot during her life. She has also a right of interment therein, of which she cannot be deprived except by her own release. (Acts of 1885, Chap. 302). The same rights in a tomb or lot of his wife have now been given to a husband. (Acts of 1900, Chap. 450, Sect. 9). This act, however, does not take effect until July 1, 1901.

Provisions of will.

If a proprietor in his will makes no devise of the lot, it becomes a part of the residuary estate; or if not devised, and no bequest of the residue is made, it descends to the heirs-at-law.

Representative to be designated.

Public Statutes, Chap. 82, Sect. 3, and Sect. 8 of the Charter of the corporation provide, "If there be more than one devisee or heir-at-law, the Board of Trustees may designate which one shall represent the lot."

Representative no control over title.

This designation *does not affect the title.* They (the heirs or devisees) are tenants-in-common; no sale can be made unless all sign conveyance.

Petition for representative. Importance of prompt return.

It is IMPORTANT that the petition for representation (furnished by the Secretary) should be PROMPTLY returned with the names and residences of the heirs, and signed by a *majority;* otherwise delays may occur at the cemetery in ascertaining whether the order for interment is properly signed.

Lots indivisible. No record of part ownership.

Lots are *indivisible*, and "no record of any person's interest in a lot, less than the entire ownership, shall be made on the books of the corporation." (Rules and Regulations, Art. VII.)

LEWIS G. FARMER,
Secretary.